



March 12, 2013

Testimony for the Senate Business, Labor and Economic Affairs Committee

Bill Draft SR 17: Confirm Governor's Appointees to the Board of Funeral Service
Testimony of Erin MacLean, Executive Director of the Montana Funeral Director Association

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

The Montana Funeral Directors Association represents the vast majority of Mortician, Mortuary, Crematory Operator and Crematory licensees in the state of Montana. All of these licensees are overseen by the Board of Funeral Service.

The Board of Funeral Service is a professional, non-political Board established by the Montana legislature to police the funeral service industry, oversee the Board's licensees and protect funeral service consumers and the public in relation to the handling of the deceased and potential infectious disease transmission in Montana. For these reasons, it is important to licensees and consumers that Board of Funeral Service members are dedicated, both ethically and professionally, to protecting consumers and upholding funeral service related laws passed by this legislature.

SR 17 is a bill intended to confirm the reappointments in 2012 by Governor Schweitzer of the following three individuals to the Montana Board of Funeral Service:

- (1) Ron Brothers, mortician,
- (2) Bart Thompson, cemetarian, and
- (3) John Tarr, public member.

As a background, each of the above-named reappointed individuals had served at least one prior term on the Board of Funeral Service and each had been originally appointed to the Board by Governor Schweitzer. The Board has six (6) members.

The Montana Funeral Directors Association (MFDA) asks that this committee send a **do not confirm recommendation to the Senate regarding Ron Brothers and Bart Thompson** and a **do confirm recommendation for John Tarr**.

Based upon information received from consumers and funeral service professionals across the state relating to the **reappointments of Mr. Brothers and Mr. Thompson**, MFDA does not have any confidence that Mr. Brothers or Mr. Thompson have the professional and moral character, or the dedication to protection of the public and enforcement of funeral service related laws required of Board members.

Ron Brothers: The packets that I handed out to you show that Mr. Brothers has had a number of ethics related complaints made by consumers at the Board of funeral Service while he was a sitting member of the Board. One lady in particular, Ms. Sisson, asked the MFDA to present a number of letters to you in opposition to Mr. Brothers' reappointment to the Board. Those letters relate to her experience with his mortuary when her husband died, along with her subsequent complaints to the Board of Funeral Service. The attached email correspondence to Pat Murdo related to a Ms. Potts, contains similar ethical allegations against Mr. Brothers that were also brought to the Board of Funeral Service while Mr. Brothers was serving on the Board. Finally, Mr. Brothers, up until he was notified by an attorney for the NFDA that he was falsely, advertising himself and/or his mortuary as a member of a number of state and national funeral service organizations, including the MFDA, even though he is not listed by those organizations as a member. In the past week, after he was notified of this violation, he removed the information from his website.

Bart Thompson: Additional enclosed letters show that Mr. Thompson has worked over the last couple of years to undermine the continued existence of the Board of Funeral Service, with the help of his family members/business partners, while he was a member of the Board of Funeral Service. During the interim, he and his family members even provided testimony to the Economic Affairs Interim Committee (EAIC) intending to convince the EAIC to do away with the Board of Funeral Service altogether. Mr. Thompson seems intent on undermining the Board's purpose of protecting the public and enforcing funeral service related laws.

Additionally, there are a number of funeral service professionals that applied for the appointments who have not had serious ethical issues brought in front of the Board and do not have the stated intention of undermining the Board so that it no longer exists. MFDA representatives have also recently spoken with the Commissioner of the Department of Labor and Industry, Pam Bucy, and Ms. Bucy indicated that the new administration under Governor Bullock would be willing and able to select appointees for the two positions if Mr. Brothers' and Mr. Thompson's 2012 Schweitzer administration appointments are not confirmed.

For these reasons the MFDA requests that this committee make a **do not confirm recommendation** to the Senate on the **2012 reappointments of Mr. Brothers and Mr. Thompson to the Board of Funeral Service**.

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For these reasons the MFDA requests that this committee make a **do not confirm recommendation** to the Senate on the **2012 reappointments of Mr. Brothers and Mr. Thompson to the Board of Funeral Service.**

Ron Brothers

February 28, 2013

Dear Senator Sonju and Committee Members:

Please find enclosed a letters that I wrote after Ron Brothers unethically handled by husband's death.

I am unable to attend the March 12, 2013 hearing as I am out of the state, but have been asked that someone from the Montana Funeral Directors Association stand in on my behalf to present my letters to the committee and voice my opinion on the re-appointment of Ron Brothers.

Please oppose the confirmation of his appointment to the Board of Funeral Service. I feel very strongly that he was very unethical with both me personally and also caring for my husband's remains.

Please contact me by email at aletasisson@gmail.com if you need any additional information.

Thank you for your time,

Aleta Sisson, MA, LCPC

Aleta Sisson

Aleta Sisson
332 Frost Lane
Corvallis, MT 59828
406-961-1369

December 18, 2006

Dear Mr. Brothers:

I am writing to respond to your letter (not dated) which I received on December 2, 2006.

When I met with Julie Briggs, I had questions about the pricing which she was not able to clarify because she was acting in your absence and was unsure of your pricing. Marcie, your staff person in charge of your facility, was unable to answer my questions. Because I did not get definite answers, I did not sign the contract. I am including a copy of the contract for payment which you said you would honor. As you can see, my understanding was that the funeral would cost me around \$4,600: \$2,500 for the complete funeral service and \$1,600 for a simple wooden casket. However, I did not receive "complete funeral services," so I do not believe I should be charged for such.

In the fourth paragraph of your letter, you state that we received two extended visitations that lasted from 6 to 11:30 PM. Actually, we had only one small (10 people or less) visitation, for family only, from 7 PM to 8:30 or 9:00 PM on Thursday night, October 19. I know that my husband's funeral service lasted from 1 PM until around 5 PM, but I had no idea that was unusual or that was a problem for you in any way. As I look at the Dowling price list under "Complete Funeral Service" it states that, "these facilities may be utilized for an extended period at no extra cost." The price list also says "use of the facilities for visitation for two days and a chapel ceremony" is included in the complete funeral service.

Although my husband's service was longer than you have experienced, I do not believe that I received professional quality services from you as the director or from a qualified staff person on your behalf. I have never planned a funeral before, but I did this for my husband with very little direction from you or your staff. My husband's funeral was perhaps longer than you expected but it was very simple funeral. You have itemized all the costs rather than giving me the funeral service package price which inflates the price dramatically. All of the services under section A. of your bill were not provided by you or your staff so to charge me for them is unacceptable.

I too would like to resolve this problem but I need you to provide a reasonable bill, one that acknowledges that you were not available until Thursday, October 19th, the day before my husband's funeral and that I therefore did not receive professional funeral director services from you. My experience with your facility was disturbing and stressful. I had a right to expect and receive caring and competent services, but I did not.

I will not pay for services that I did not receive.

Sincerely,



Aleta Sisson

April 12, 2007

Dear Mr. Brothers:

I have reviewed your bill and I have some problems with it as I have expressed to you before.

Section "A" of your bill itemizes charges for services that I did not receive. I did not receive professional services from your unlicensed employee, Marcie. These charges come to \$2,264.00. You were out of town the entire four days before my husband's funeral. I did not meet you until the day before his funeral. I received no guidance from your one unlicensed employee or yourself on how to handle my husband's funeral. I wrote his obituary myself and I had to submit it to the local papers myself because your staff person did not know how to do it correctly, although she assured me she had done it. Because of her lack of knowledge, the obituary did not appear in the paper until the day before the funeral. It did not appear in the Cody Enterprise until two weeks after the funeral because Marcie did not submit it although she told me that she had. All the people in my husband's hometown were therefore unaware of his death and unable to attend and pay their respects.

You are charging me for embalming that I know your facility did not perform; there was no professional person at your facility. The Briggs' from Brundage Funeral Home did this service and they have told me repeatedly that they will not charge me for this because I was so poorly served by your facility. Julie Briggs did the preparation of my husband's body and his dressing and cosmetology. The restoration after the autopsy was also performed by Julie Briggs. Therefore, I refuse to pay you for "Professional Services" not rendered by you.

In section "B" of your bill, I am being charged \$874.69 for 200 funeral programs. Your employee, Marcie, and Julie Briggs assured me that charges for each program would be between \$1.20 to \$2.00. Therefore, I expected to pay \$400 at most for the programs. I refuse to pay what you are charging me. I was also told by Marcie that my husband's casket was \$1600, and that \$2500 would be the "package" price for his funeral. There was information on your price list that I did not understand; Julie Briggs and Marcie were unable to explain it. Because of this, I did not sign the contract. I was assured that I would get the package price because it was the most reasonable way to provide the funeral services to a patron. You, however, are itemizing all of your charges and therefore inflating the cost.

In section "D" of your bill you are charging me \$208.47 for an obituary. I have already paid this charge to the Rayalli Republic. I was never informed by your staff person that there would be an additional charge of \$95.00 if my husband's funeral continued past 4:00 PM. I should have been informed that there would be an additional charge.

I believe that I did not receive appropriate service and care from you or your staff person. I am appalled with your lack of service. I have disputed your charges to you for the last 6 months and I maintain my position that I was so poorly served by you and your facility that I have suffered undue stress from your lack of professionalism.

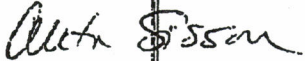
Because your business operates as a funeral home, I had a right to expect that my husband's body would be attended by a licensed professional mortician. Instead, my husband was handled by a non-licensed person who should never have been allowed to touch him let alone bathe his body. Marcie, your unlicensed employee, told me that she "felt such a connection with him" (my husband, John Sisson) as she bathed his body and she cried as she told me this. I have a witness who heard her and watched this unprofessional and inappropriate display. Knowing now that she was unqualified and therefore not someone I would have trusted to care for my husband's body, but being led by you to believe that she was a professional and I could put trust in her and in you, has caused undue pain and suffering to me and to my family. It has added to the pain we would naturally and normally have suffered by his death.

Considering all that I have expressed to you, I cannot pay the charges you say that I owe. I feel you owe me an apology and a reasonable bill. As I reminded you in a previous correspondence, I did ask you directly by phone the day after my husband died and his body was in your facility, how you could handle the funeral from such a distance. You assured me you had a qualified staff

and you would handle everything smoothly and professionally. You did not deliver what you promised and I will not pay the highlighted charges.

I look forward to an accurate, reasonable bill that reflects my dissatisfaction with your services and the pain and suffering I and my family have endured. I look forward to resolving this dispute.

Very truly yours,




Aleta Sisson

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I look forward to an accurate, reasonable bill that reflects my dissatisfaction with your services and the pain and suffering I and my family have endured. I look forward to resolving this dispute.

Very truly yours,


Aleta Sisson

September 26, 2007

Dear Mr. Brothers:

I received your bill dated September 25, 2007. As you know, I have an attorney representing me in a dispute with you over your handling of my husband's funeral. I am highly displeased with your services, and I know that you broke Montana law by having an unlicensed person on staff bathing my husband's body and speaking with me in a most unprofessional manner. I have a witness who accompanied me and heard Marcy's comments. Marcy was unable to answer any of my questions. She was unable to guide me through the funeral process and you were out-of-town until the day before the funeral. You assured me you could handle the services from a distance because of your qualified staff person, Marcy. I was led to believe that any person attending my husband's body would be a licensed mortician or a mortician in training. Your misrepresentation of her was fraudulent and against state law.

Since the day before the funeral, I made it clear that I was very displeased with your services. I believed your charges were far over what they should have been for the funeral. You have never attempted to remedy the wrong, admit any wrong-doing on your part, or even to apologize for such poor service. You and I agreed to a sum of \$4,800 to cover the funeral and finally settle the dispute; I know this amount has been sent to you by check by my attorney. I think that you so grossly mishandled my husband's funeral that to pay you any more money is simply wrong. If you proceed to drag this dispute out any further, so be it. I will prepare myself to resist paying you anything in every way that is possible. The money that you have been paid is far more than you earned.

Sincerely yours,



Aleta Sisson

Murdo, Patricia

Subject: FW: response to your email/questions answered

This email relates to a complaint against the Board of Funeral Service. The email address has been removed for privacy purposes. More material was made available to committee members.

From:

Sent: Wednesday, December 21, 2011 9:34 AM

To: Murdo, Patricia

Subject: response to your email/questions answered

Pat-

Sorry I never got back to you last week- have been working several long days. Thank you for reading the complaint information and responding. Here are my comments and the answers to your questions.

You're right, I was not familiar with the unprofessional conduct criteria that the Funeral Board uses to determine sanctions against licensees. In looking at 37-1-316, MCA, Unprofessional conduct, that you referenced in your email, Item 11 clearly applies when it came to transferring ashes to a small pendant on my countertop, when Mr. Brothers stated several times that he was blind and couldn't see because he had just seen an eye doctor who had dilated his eyes. I guess you could say he was temporarily "physically disabled to practice his profession with reasonable skill." Also Item 18 refers to "conduct that does not meet the generally accepted standards of practice." Are there standards of practice for morticians? If so, what is included in these "generally accepted standards of practice?" Are they available for public access?

Yes, that is true that the Board did not focus on the general complaints of "sloppiness," nor did they address Mr. Brothers' lack of caring, consideration, compassion, sensitivity, dignity, responsibility, accountability, etc. When you are in the mortician business, one would think these important attributes should matter and that you would be on top of your game in providing the highest quality service which should include these important attributes. There is no second chance to get it right!!! I wonder if there is any continuing education attached to mortician licenses??? It probably wouldn't matter in this case.

In answer to your 1st question: Did I receive any handouts or basic information from the funeral home? As we stated in our complaint, we received NO INFORMATION OR DIRECTION AT ANY TIME FROM RON BROTHERS OR HIS STAFF. They retrieved my mom's body from the hospital on Wednesday, November 24, 2010, and I did not hear anything from Brothers Mortuary until Monday, November 29, 2010. I was not provided any information or papers to sign when they picked my mom up from the hospital. Tera from Brothers Mortuary called me on Monday, November 29, 2010, and asked me to come to Hamilton to sign some papers since the Coroner had signed off on my mom's death that morning and they could now proceed with her cremation. This is the first mention of paperwork of any kind!!!!!! When I did see these papers for the first time on Monday, November 29, 2010, at Brothers Mortuary in Hamilton, they included an Authorization for Cremation and Disposition for me to sign, A Statement of Funeral Goods and Services Selected, a blank form for an obituary, and a Simplified Price List.

So in answer to your 2nd question of "did the funeral home provide me with any information that informed me that not only was the coroner's signature necessary but that they needed either disposition directions (provided in written or audio form by my mother prior to her death) or a directive from the person authorized to direct disposition of the remains?" The answer to this is yes. When Tera and another woman from Brothers Mortuary picked up my mom from the hospital after she had passed, I told them that my mom wanted to be cremated. Tera stated that the cremation could not take place for 24 hours and that the Coroner had to sign off on her death. Tera also stated, at the time, that nothing would probably get done until the following Monday because of the holiday and the weekend. I don't understand why the above mentioned papers and other general information were not provided to me when they retrieved my mom from the hospital????? Obviously, if they would have provided, at a minimum, the Authorization for Cremation and Disposition for me to sign, perhaps my mom might have been cremated sooner than the 5 days it took Brothers Mortuary to cremate her. Probably not though, since Tera had stated to me that nothing would get done until the following Monday. Both my brother and I had repeatedly questioned either Mr. Brothers or Tera as to why IT TOOK THEM 5 DAYS TO CREMATE OUR

MOM. Brothers Mortuary had access to the Coroner 24/7/365 days a year as stated to me by Sheriff McMeekin, who was also the Coroner at the time. As was already stated in our complaint, Ron Brothers and his staff blamed the Coroner for not signing off on our mom's death in a timely manner because he was unavailable (which was not true), then they blamed the doctor for not being available in her office after thanksgiving and during the weekend to provide the cause of death (which was also not true), and then they blamed me for not signing the authorization (which I didn't even know existed until Monday, November 29, 2010, when it was handed to me to sign at the mortuary). We believe the problem was that Mr. Brothers was unavailable and that he is the one that did not do his job as a professional mortician!!

As was also stated in our complaint, Ron Brothers questioned why I had not picked up a packet of information from his mortuary the summer of 2009, when I had my mom out for a drive, since as he stated to me, "you knew your mom was sick and was going to die." He said this to me during one of many upsetting conversations I had with Mr. Brothers following my mom's death. I couldn't believe he said this to me. In other words, it was my fault that they provided ABSOLUTELY NO GUIDANCE OR ANY INFORMATION about what and how things are done at our time of need. After all, Mr. Brothers thought, that by my being a professional nurse and having the experience of patients dying, that somehow I should know what mortuary staff are suppose to provide to families at their time of loss!! THE FUNERAL HOME DID NOT SPELL OUT OR PROVIDE ME WITH ANY WRITTEN MATERIALS THAT CONTAINED THE ABOVE INFORMATION UNTIL MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2010. I never did receive that allusive packet that Ron Brothers referred to! And NO, the Compliance Officer has never asked me these questions.

Regarding the conflict of interest issue, I thought that I heard someone mention during the first Economic Affairs Interim Committee hearing to abolish this Board, that possibly there could be a neutral entity that would provide this public service in reviewing these complaints. Obviously, it is not fair that a voting member of the Board is listening to and voting on a complaint lodged against that member.

In regards to the way that the Screening Panel Meeting was conducted in that I only had the right to answer questions and not present further information. That is correct, but when I attempted to answer questions posed to me, I was cut off and was not allowed to fully address the question. Either the Chairman or their attorney would stop me from completing my answer. In reviewing the brochure that was sent to me by the Compliance Officer before this Screening Panel Meeting, I see that it states that there will be "no opportunity to provide testimony or present arguments and that you can only respond to direct questions from a panel member and that your participation is limited to listening to discussion." I understood, after reading this brochure, that the committee was suppose to review and discuss the complaint and the response in their entirety in order to determine appropriate action. What if this committee does not address all of the expressed complaint issues, and what if only three out of five Board members present participate and dictate to the other members present what is going to happen with the complaint? Is this right or is this how this committee is suppose to function??

You say word of mouth should go a long way in preventing others from using this horrible mortuary, but I have been reluctant to say much, since Mr. Brothers was found "innocent" so to speak, and I did not want him to come back at me in some way for bad mouthing him. I have questioned Joe Balyeat about this, and he has assured me that I can't get in any kind of trouble. I was also reluctant to share this experience with the Committee deciding whether to abolish the Funeral Board for this reason.

Just to let you know this nightmare continues. After I purchased the pendant, referred to in the complaint, along with a small keepsake urn from Mr. Brothers, both of which contain my mom's remains, I put them away in the original box/wrapping they came in and never looked at them again until a couple weeks ago when I decided to purchase a chain so I can wear the pendant. The pendant never came with a chain even though the picture I ordered it from at Brothers Mortuary showed the pendant with a chain. Now remember, I was told by Mr. Brothers, at the time, that there would be no problem finding a chain to match this bronze pendant after he had delivered it to my house without a chain. At the time of delivery of this pendant and small urn to my home by Mr. Brothers, it was chaotic as stated in our complaint, and I was trying to get ready to leave the next morning for Havre to finish planning and preparing for my mom's memorial service. Also at the time of my mom's passing, and for several months following, there was so much going on with grieving the loss of my mom, dealing with the complaint, making numerous trips over several months to Havre to go through my mom's things and prepare her house for sale, in the midst of lots going on at my home in Missoula. So the bottom line is, I never looked at the pendant or the small keepsake urn that I had purchased until I decided to buy a chain a couple of weeks ago so that I could wear the pendant. When I removed the two items from the original pendant box/urn wrapping, I was shocked to see that there were ashes on the outside of both of these items; it was obvious that neither the urn nor the pendant were properly sealed. Also, when I removed the pendant from the box it came in, I noticed that the back side of this heart pendant was damaged. There is a large rough divet-like area and also a big

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scratch. Remember, these items have never been looked at since I received them; they have been in the original box/wrapping. I couldn't believe it.

When I went to the jewelry store to purchase a chain for the pendant, not only was I unable to find a chain to match (apparently bronze is a hard color to find a chain to match), but the jeweler also noticed that it didn't seem like the pendant was even sealed because of the obvious ashes on the outside, so she looked at it under a magnifying glass to confirm that it indeed wasn't sealed properly. And she also noticed that the back of the pendant was damaged. So, not only am I unable to find a matching chain for the pendant, but I have a damaged pendant as well. I then shared some of what had happened to our family, and she was appalled. She shared with me the positive story of her dad's passing and subsequent funeral home dealings. She suggested I take both of the items to a reputable funeral home to see if they could seal the pendant and the small urn. So I did drive to the funeral home, but it appeared they had a service going on at the time, so I didn't go in. When I got home, I decided to contact the Madelyn Company directly, where the pendant originally came from, to see what to do with the damaged pendant. They expressed their sorrow for what had happened and the state of the existing pendant and offered to assist me in making the situation right. They want me to choose another keepsake pendant to be sent to a reputable local funeral home so they can transfer the ashes from the damaged pendant to a new pendant, and seal it properly. I will also take the small urn to them as well and ask them to properly seal it. This just keeps going on and on. Because of this experience, I never want to have anything to do with another funeral home. Just to have to go back to a funeral home again to deal with my mom's remains is going to be difficult. I shouldn't have to be doing this!! My mom has been gone for over a year. We were very close. I thought I would be moving forward by purchasing a chain to be able to wear the pendant, and then to have this happen. It just keeps me in a state of constant turmoil. I don't wish any part of this experience on another person. What a nightmare!! You can share this additional information with the committee as well.

Please keep me informed as to what happens with all of this. When does this committee meet in January? Will it be televised so that I can watch?


Thank you
glynis golden potts


BROTHERS


Mortuary


AND CREMATORY





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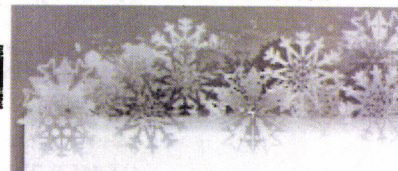
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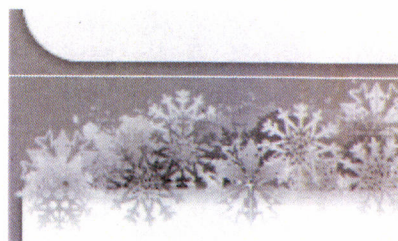
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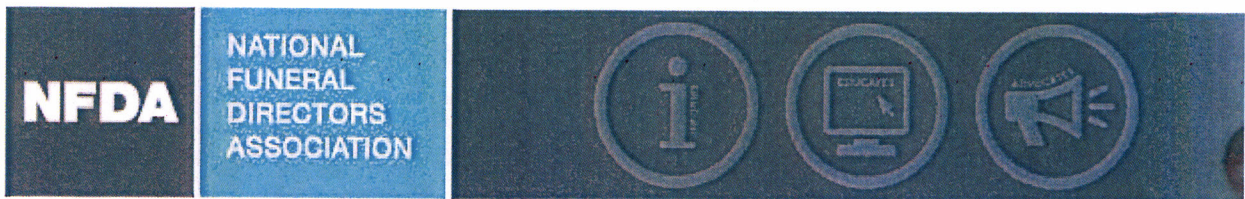
State: County:

**Dokken-Nelson Funeral Service &
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Bozeman, MT 59715

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Click on a funeral home name below to view address, phone number, website address and links to online maps.

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The mark of excellence: Certified Funeral Service Practitioner

Each of the funeral directors listed has earned the designation of Certified Funeral Service Practitioner from the Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice, Inc.

A select few have distinguished themselves among their peers within the funeral service profession as they continue their education to exceed the highest standards of care. This achievement is especially notable because they have voluntarily elected to participate in quality educational and service opportunities that far surpass what the funeral service licensing board in their state requires.

Montana

Billings	Shane Wade Salisbury, CFSP Smith Funeral Chapels	(406) 245-6427
Great Falls	Steve A. Schnider, CFSP Schnider Funeral Home, Inc.	(406) 727-1368
Hamilton	Robert Thomas Grymes Jr., CFSP* Daly-Leach Memorial Chapel	(406) 363-2010
Hamilton	William S. Rothie, CFSP* Daly-Leach Chapel	(406) 363-2010
Livingston	John T. Davis, CFSP*	(406) 222-2531
Missoula	Wayne Jon Benson, CFSP Garden City Funeral Home & Crematory	(406) 543-4190
Plentywood	David G. Fulkerson, CFSP Fulkerson Funeral Home of Plentywood, Inc.	(406) 765-1010
Plentywood	Jane Ann Fulkerson, CFSP Fulkerson Funeral Home of Plentywood, Inc.	(406) 765-1010
Sidney	Michael J. McCollum, CFSP*	(406) 488-2805
Sidney	Albert T. McGahan, CFSP*	(406) 482-2805

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Notes:

- **Members With Asterisk After Their Name:** If an asterisk appears next to the members name, it signifies that member is a Lifetime member of the Academy. Lifetime members have made an extended commitment to lifelong learning.
- **Members Appearing in Bold:** If a member's name is bolded, that member is an APFSP Ambassador. APFSP Ambassadors encourage others to become members of the Academy and assist current members as they work toward their CFSP designation.

Bart Thompson

Shrider-Thompson
FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES

406-676-4461

419 ROUND BUTTE RD. W.
POST OFFICE BOX 731
RONAN, MONTANA 59864

Economic Affairs Interim Committee
P. O. Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620-1706

Mr. Chairman and Members of the committee:

As a Montana Licensed Mortician, Crematory Operator and partner in a licensed Cemetery, I feel there is no need for a Board of Funeral Service in the state of Montana.

The Federal Trade Commission currently has rules in place to protect the public in regards to pricing and financial matters regarding funerals.

The Department of Occupational Safety and Health has rules to protect the employees of funeral homes from health and safety issues.

The Montana Department of Health and Human Services has rules in regard to care and handling of human remains and the filing and completion of Death Certificates.

Continuing education credits are given to individuals who attend dinners sponsored by various organizations, with no educational programs.

Members of the Board have used their position, to harass, intimidate and prevent competition.

Having been licensed as a Mortician since 1975, I can not recall that the Board has ever disciplined an individual or firm for any reason.

I believe this Board is a waste of money and a burden to the taxpayers and provides no protection to the public not provided elsewhere.

Thank you,


Mike Thompson



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10/03/2011

Economic Affairs Interim Committee
P.O. Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620-1706

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The Montana Department of Health and Human Services has rules in place regarding care and handling of human remains as well as the filing and completion of Death Certificates.

Continuing education credits are given to individuals who attend dinners sponsored by various organizations with no educational programs.

Members of the Board have used their positions to harass, intimidate, and impede competition.

I believe the Board of Funeral Service provides NO protection to the public, is a burden to taxpayers, and is a waste of money.

Thank You,

Ellen Thompson

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